



**UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND**  
7115 SOUTH BOUNDARY BOULEVARD  
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 33621-5101

13 March 2012

Mr. Jason Smathers  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 227  
P.O. Box 55819  
Boston, MA 02205-5819

Dear Mr. Smathers,

We received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request on 5 March 2012 regarding "all records that direct CENTCOM on the use of social media for gaining support of their actions....". Your request is being processed in accordance with Title 5 U.S.C. § 552 Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Guide and Executive Order 13526. The actual processing time will depend upon consultation with other DoD components, stateside, overseas, or other agencies.

You requested a fee waiver in your FOIA request. In order to qualify for a fee waiver, the DoD component command determines whether the FOIA request warrants a waiver or reduction of fees. The burden is on the requester to demonstrate that the requested information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operations or activities of the Government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester. You, the requester, must satisfy these statutory requirements before U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM) waives fees. Unfortunately, your request fails to address, in detail, the public interest requirement. Your request does not articulate how this information "significantly" contributes to the public understanding or meaningfully informs the public of government operations. Therefore, I cannot approve your request for a fee waiver.

Additionally your request does not state the amount of fees that you would be willing to pay. Please provide a fee statement via mail or email so that we can continue processing your request. We have placed you in the "Other" category for fee purposes. This means you will be obligated to pay for search time after the first two hours (\$20.00 an hour) and duplication costs after the first 100 pages (\$.15 a page).

If you are not satisfied with this action, you may appeal to the appellate authority, the Director of Administration and Management, Office of the Secretary of Defense. To submit your appeal, you should write directly to the Defense Freedom of Information Policy Office, Attn: Mr. James Hogan, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301-1155. Please postmark your appeal within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter, cite to the case number 12-0147, and clearly mark "Freedom of Information Act Appeal" on your appeal letter.

The USCENTCOM FOIA Requester Service Center receives numerous FOIA requests and has a substantial number of pending FOIA cases; therefore, we process requests in a multi-track processing system based on the date of receipt and complexity of the request. The FOIA does not require agencies to respond to questions, to do research, compile or analyze data, summarize, or conduct surveys for members of the public. You should be aware that the FOIA only provides the means by which the public can request specific documents from USCENTCOM. The requested documents should be described to the extent that they may be located with a reasonable amount of effort. Your FOIA is currently number 175 in our queue.

If you have any questions regarding your inquiry, please contact my FOIA Requester Service Center at (813) 827-1810, [foiaoffice@centcom.mil](mailto:foiaoffice@centcom.mil), and refer to USCENTCOM case #12-0147.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Walter L. Carter Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

WALTER L. CARTER, JR.

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army

Deputy Chief, Resources and Analysis Division,  
Command and Control, Communications,  
and Computer Systems Directorate